



DATE: November 17, 2006

TO: Andrew T. Souza

FROM: Rhonda Jorn, Public Affairs Officer

FOR: Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT: CITYWIDE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

The *Citywide Weekly Report* highlights various activities throughout the City for the week. Consistent with our mission to ensure equal access to opportunity, education, and quality of life for every man, woman and child regardless of their race, religion, age or socio-economic status, this report will work to organize our weekly achievements so that we can measure and maximize our management and performance toward reaching our goals. It is our intent that this report will help to improve communications about the programs and services provided to both the City Council and the community.

Please feel free to contact the Public Affairs Department with any questions.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

AIRPORTS

Solar Energy Project

- Plans for a large-scale solar energy project were also shared with Council and the public this week. Final negotiations are ongoing, however, the plans call for inclusion of solar energy panels in the design of the Consolidated Rental Car Facility currently being designed. The Rental Car Facility is projected to begin construction in mid-2007; with a proposed completion date of December, 2008.

UPCOMING EVENTS and PROJECTS

PUBLIC WORKS

Traffic Signals and Streetlight Crews

- Crews replaced over 3,000 feet of wire in an ongoing effort to keep City of Fresno streetlights operational. Staff is in the process of hiring additional crew to double the output.

KEY RESULT AREA: PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire

- The Northern California Training Officers Symposium was host by the department during the week of November 13. Approximately 500 firefighters from throughout California attended the symposium.
- Congratulations to the following employees on their service awards.

Battalion Chief Clay Rider – 42 years (retired November 7)

Captain Bill Durham – 39 years

Executive Assistant Maria Campos – 30 years

Principal Account Clerk Rose Lopez – 25 years

Fire Prevention Engineer Byron Beagles – 20 years

Deputy Chief Kerri Donis – 10 years

Captain Steven Byers – 10 years

Captain Carl Delap – 10 years

Captain Jo-Ella Garcia – 10 years

Captain Mark Harvey – 10 years

Captain Don Ockey – 10 years

Captain Ken Yasunaga – 10 years

Captain Mark Young – 10 years

Engineer Fred Sawaske – 10 years

Firefighter Ken Morris – 10 years

- From November 10 through November 16 at 1500 hours, fire crews responded to 540 incidents.

KEY RESULT AREA: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Transportation/FAX

New Director of Transportation Hired!

- The City Manager and Assistant City Manager are very pleased to announce the selection of Ken Hamm as the new Director of Transportation. After a national recruitment, Mr. Hamm was selected from a list of exceptional candidates. He has had a long and distinguished career in public transportation. Mr. Hamm joined the Team Fresno on Monday, November 6, 2006. The Department welcomes Ken Hamm to the City of Fresno.

KEY RESULT AREA: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development

Certification to Accreditation

- One of the goals of the Economic Development Department is adopt best practices and use state-of-the-art processes to provide services to clients. To support this effort, the Department will seek to earn accreditation through the International Economic Development Council (IEDC). The first step in that process is the earning of Certified Economic Developer status for key staff members. Toward that goal, staff from the Economic Development Department attended IEDC's Economic Development Marketing and Attraction training. Staff will be able to use techniques learned here to ensure success in the Department's marketing efforts.

CALED Enterprise Zone Conference

- Economic Development Analyst, Kelly Trevino, traveled to Indio, CA this week to attend the annual California Association of Enterprise Zones (CAEZ) conference. With the excitement of a recently announced new State Enterprise Zone designation, the Economic Development Department is gearing up to market the program to businesses throughout the City. The conference, titled "CAEZ: At The Crossroads" included sessions focused on building a good Enterprise Zone program, utilizing consultants, workforce development and training, marketing, and successfully expanding your zone

KEY RESULT AREA: ONE FRESNO

Planning and Development

Safe Housing Program

- Code Enforcement staff and members of Planning and Development met with Jon Ruiz to discuss interest in the Safe Housing Program. The meeting began with a power point presentation outlining the processes, procedures, and tools currently used by the Safe Housing Team. After the power point presentation, all parties went into the field and saw, first hand, properties currently being addressed by the Safe Housing Team and those previously addressed and now in compliance. The meeting successfully illustrated the efficiency and effectiveness of the Safe Housing Team in helping to provide safe affordable housing.

KEY RESULT AREA: CUSTOMER SERVICE

General Services

Facilities Management Here and There

- The Facilities Management air conditioning shop has just completed a major pump overhaul at the airport. Ron Walker and Chuck Henning rebuilt the pump in-house which resulted in a significant savings to the Airports Department. Facilities Management painters completed the painting of the Airports Department Administration Division building at a cost savings and prior to the start of the rainy season. Facilities Management maintenance staff have been rocking and rolling at the Convention Center complex working to complete improvements to the entrance to the Saroyan Theater and plaza area between the Theater and Valdez Hall.

Public Works

- Michelle Hernandez has joined the staff of Public Works as a Senior Secretary in Traffic Engineering. She will be working closely with the Traffic Engineering Managers and Supervisors to provide the highest quality of customer service to the public and many other departments that we work with on a daily basis. She brings a wealth of organizational and marketing skills from her many years of work in the private sector. There will be no more need for the "bell ringing" at the traffic engineering counter to get assistance as she will be greeting the public at the counter as a result of a cubicle reconfiguration to face the counter.

Streets Repair

- Crews have repaired over 40 individual street locations this week. This type of repair is a more permanent approach to pothole filling and makes for a better driving surface. Good proactive work by these crews!

Concrete Repair, Special Projects and Wheelchair ramps

- The concrete repair section comprised of both tree damage and No Neighborhood Left Behind (NNLB) areas together poured over 266 yards of concrete. This equates to about 1 mile of 4 ft sidewalk. Crews also retrofitted 8 wheelchair ramps as part of the continuing effort to provide services for the disabled community. Solid production and excellent service to the customers!

Street Striping and Signage

- Crews striped a total of 80 lane miles of center line and lane lines; and maintained a total of 60 crosswalks and legends. Crews installed Thermoplastic to finish three schools: Tehipite Middle School, Teilman County Court School and Phoenix Academy.

Sign crews

- Assisted Planning and Development with fabricated Parking signs to be used at Sunnyside High School for a special citizens meeting. Continued high level of customer service by responding to 11 citizen requests, 5 requests from Traffic Engineering, 3 requests from parking Enforcement, 1 Council request and 6 after hour emergency calls for downed stop signs. Great production and consistency!

Public Works Median Team

Performed the following:

Cleaned: 2.6 million sq. ft.

Sprayed: 5.87 million sq. ft.

Irrigation Repair hours: 190 hours

Public Works Traffic Engineering

- Secured funding from the state for Preliminary Engineering and Construction for the Fruit Avenue Bike Project, McKinley Avenue to Ashlan Avenue. Peters Engineering was hired to design of the striping on the Fruit Avenue corridor to retrofit the roadway for bike lanes. The plans are 75% complete. Additional scope of work was added to the project to overlay Fruit Avenue between Shields Avenue and Dakota Avenue.

- Secured funding from the state for Preliminary Engineering and Construction for the First Street Bike Project, Dakota Avenue to Herndon Avenue. TJKM was hired to do the design to construct Bicycle Lanes on the First Street corridor located between Dakota Avenue and Herndon Avenue. Construction Management is completing the topography this week.
- Negotiating with Boyle Engineering Corporations regarding the scope and cost of service and fee estimate for the preparation of design, geometrics and construction documents for the street improvements at the three railroad crossing at Cedar Avenue, Maple Avenue, and Chestnut Avenue along the California Avenue corridor of the San Joaquin Valley Railroad.
- Assisted the Planning and Development Department with two Southeast Area Growth Area listening sessions at Sunnyside High School from 6-9PM on Monday and Thursday nights. The cafeteria was standing room only; a great turnout from City residents, County residents, property owners, and developers.

Street Impact Fees

- Public Works staff met with the stakeholders for four hours on November 16, 2006 regarding Street Impact Fees. City staff and the Stakeholders came to a resolution on how to determine the number of trips for buildout of the General Plan land uses. Jeff Reid, an attorney representing some of the stakeholders, presented Council and City Management with a letter requesting more time (an extension to the December 12th deadline from Council) be given to resolve many issues/concerns of the Stakeholders. The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 21, 2006 from 2-4 pm.

Airports

Council Workshop

- A workshop outlining Airports' three-year plan for terminal improvements was presented to the City Council. New projects included in the plan are: Parking lot re-allocation; redesign of the baggage claim area; and a total remodel of the security checkpoint and terminal lobby. Of particular interest to the Council, was the concept of a "sense of place", which will be an area in the lobby dedicated to replicas of the Giant Sequoias. Mr. Widmar explained the purpose of the area as giving passengers an immediate sense of where they are when they arrive in the terminal. They will know they are at Fresno Yosemite International Airport because the beauty of the trees is a reminder of the natural beauty of the region.

Planning and Development

Code Enforcement Division

- Code Enforcement is joining two of the subcommittees formed by the Mayor's Blue Ribbon 10x10 Committee. Both sub-committees are comprised of individuals representing different agencies/groups throughout the county. All members are interested in finding ways to outline plans to organize, strengthen, and engage communities in building and sustaining healthy homes and neighborhoods. Both groups will provide progress updates on ongoing work to the weekly meetings of the larger committee.